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The ABC of cholesterol transport

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Acknowledgments

It's done! The scientific part of the book is finished. However, the hardest task remains: to write down the acknowledgements, the chapter which is usually read first (and sometimes it's the only chapter one reads, but that's a different story). To make it somewhat easier, I decided to write it in English. Many, many people made me feel "at home" at the *laboratorium kindergeneeskunde*, and fun at work makes life easier. Others contributed scientifically to the projects described in this book, which in the end made it possible for me to finish this thesis. And a few people did both... Anyway, I enjoyed the time I spent with you (yes, also with YOU) and I am enthusiastically looking forward to the coming years. However, some people should be acknowledged personally:

Folkert, I can very well remember details of my first visit to Groningen: It's still puzzling that you accepted the foreigner with experience on little critters only to work in your lab. My first impression was that working with you would be both stimulating and challenging. I was right. Whenever I finished a project, you already had brilliant new ideas - and usually many of them - for the ones to come. On the other hand, you always supported me when I was interested in trying out new techniques, even if they were not useful for us at that moment. Thanks for giving me that freedom.

Bert, the major part of this book went through your hands. I always enjoyed our discussions and believe that you deeply influenced this thesis. Not to forget the congresses where your g8 story made headway for my g5 story.

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Whenever I did an experiment in the lab, I was confronted with Mariska in the true sense of the word - she was working on the opposite site of the bench. Thanks to you and all MDL colleagues (especially to Michael Müller and Peter Jansen in the beginning; Han and Klaas-Nico; Hans and Lisette; Manon and Marieke, just to mention a few) for the good collaboration during the last years. Moreover, I frequently had to annoy people from other labs within the AZG with my work: Alida, Claude, Inge, Jacoline; and Henk and Ido. Thanks for your patience.

However, I did not spend all of my time in the lab: I shared the remaining time with people in my office room (Han, Jaap, Martijn, Olaf, Tomoji, Vincent: we always had a nice *refugium* for discussions and chats), the animal facility (Ar, Harm, Natasha, amongst others), and, of course, in the *koffiekamer*.

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Ein Wort zum Schluss: Für die Familie ist es nicht leicht, wenn der Mann/Papa/Sohn/Bruder/Enkel/Schwiegersohn in ein fernes Land entschwindet und dort den lieben langen Tag Mäuseködel sortiert. Dafür soll der Bursche so lange studiert haben? Falls es euch beruhigt: Ich verstehe es manchmal auch nicht. Gerade deswegen danke ich euch allen (Heike, Simon, Mama und Papa, Andrea, Oma, Helmut und Annegret) von Herzen für eure Unterstützung und eure Geduld!

Torsten

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